United Nations A/60/67

General Assembly

Distr.: General
23 March 2005

Original: English

Sixtieth session
Item 39 of the preliminary list*
Offers by Member States of study and training facilities for inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories

Offers by Member States of study and training facilities for inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories

Report of the Secretary-General

Summary

The present report is mandated by General Assembly resolution 59/130 and is a compilation of replies from Member States related to scholarships and training facilities available to the inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories.

* A/60/50.

05-28256 (E) 210405

I. Introduction

1. By General Assembly resolution 845 (IX) of 22 November 1954, Member States were invited to extend to the inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories offers of facilities not only for study and training of university standard, but also for study at the post-primary level, as well as technical and vocational training of immediate practical value.

2. In accordance with General Assembly resolution 1696 (XVI) of 19 December 1961, offers extended under resolution 845 (IX) are communicated by the Secretariat to the administering Powers to enable them to give appropriate publicity to the offers in the Territories under their administration.

3. Information on scholarships offered by Member States under the programme is made available to prospective applicants. Reference to the programme is included in the thirty-first edition of the handbook entitled *Study Abroad*, published by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization.

4. Under the terms of General Assembly resolution 845 (IX) and subsequent resolutions,[1] the Secretary-General submits to the Assembly each year a report containing detailed information on the offers made and the extent to which they were utilized.[2] The present report, which covers the period from 16 April 2004 to 25 March 2005, is submitted in accordance with paragraph 5 of General Assembly resolution 59/130 of 10 December 2004.

II. Scholarship offers and awards

A. Offering States

5. Over the years, the 58 States Members of the United Nations listed below have offered to make scholarships available for the use of inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories in response to the aforementioned resolutions:

Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Barbados, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Colombia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Egypt, Finland, Gabon, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Hungary, India, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malawi, Malaysia, Malta, Mexico, New Zealand, Norway, Pakistan, Panama, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Romania, Russian Federation, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay and Yugoslavia.

6. One non-member State has also offered scholarships:

Holy See

B. Offers and awards

Member States

Australia

7. In a letter dated 8 March 2005, the Permanent Mission of Australia to the United Nations informed the Secretariat that Australia provides up to three scholarships per year (to a total value of A$ 100,000) for students from Tokelau to study in other parts of the Pacific. Australia also provides up to nine scholarships annually (to a total value of approximately A$ 1.1 million) for New Caledonian students to undertake study in Australia.

Malaysia

8. In a fax dated 7 March 2005, the Permanent Mission of Malaysia to the United Nations informed the Secretariat that only Montserrat has been involved in a training programme whereby three of its inhabitants have participated in the Malaysian Technical Cooperation Program (MTCP), namely, in the years 1997, 2002 and 2004. MTCP is a short-term training programme developed by the Government of Malaysia to promote and facilitate technical assistance to participating developing countries. The programme consolidates various forms of technical cooperation in areas where Malaysia has the experience and expertise.

Portugal

9. In a note verbale dated 9 March 2005, the Permanent Mission of Portugal to the United Nations informed the Secretariat that, though it did not give any scholarships in 2003 to students from these Territories, Portugal always welcomes applications from suitable candidates.

Thailand

10. In a note verbale dated 18 March 2005, the Permanent Representative of Thailand to the United Nations informed the Secretary-General that the Government of Thailand has, for the first time, offered scholarships for the Annual International Training Courses 2005 to Caribbean Community member States, one of which is Montserrat, a Non-Self-Governing Territory.

11. Five courses have been offered, namely, water supply technology, hotel management, infectious paediatric nursing, environmental impact assessment and integrated coastal zone management. Thus far, none of the citizens of Montserrat has applied for the first four courses, while names of participants for the fifth course have not yet been put forward.

United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

12. In a note verbale dated 15 March 2005, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland informed the Secretariat that the United Kingdom Government provides a number of Scholarships for its Overseas Territories under a scheme known as the Chevening Scholarships. These are intended to encourage young people who show potential to become leaders, opinion formers and decision makers to study in the United Kingdom and gain skills that will benefit their Territories. For

the academic year 2004-2005, the United Kingdom sponsored six new Chevening Scholars.

13. Generally, education policy is devolved to the Territory governments, with each able to make decisions based on their own assessment of local needs. The Governments of the populated Overseas Territories sponsor a number of students to study in the United Kingdom and elsewhere.

Holy See

14. In a note verbale dated 1 March 2005, the Permanent Observer Mission of the Holy See to the United Nations informed the Secretary-General that the Holy See has made scholarships available to 10 inhabitants of American Samoa, two inhabitants of the United States Virgin Islands and three inhabitants of Guam.

III. Applications made through the United Nations

15. In accordance with the procedure established by the General Assembly in its resolution 1696 (XVI), applications for scholarships received by the United Nations Secretariat from inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories are transmitted simultaneously to the offering States for consideration and to the administering Powers for information.

16. Between 16 April 2004 and 25 March 2005, the Secretariat received a request from one student for information on the availability of scholarships. The student was not an inhabitant of a Non-Self-Governing Territory.

IV. Conclusion

17. Scholarships and training facilities offered by Member States to the inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories represent a valuable contribution to their educational advancement.

Notes

[1] The most recent resolutions adopted by the General Assembly on this question are resolutions 55/140, 56/68 and 57/134, 58/105, 59/130.

[2] For the most recent reports, see A/54/267, A/55/81 and Add.1, A/56/88 and A/57/90 and Add.1, A/58/71, A/59/74.